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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 32, 34-35, 37-39, 42, 44, 49, 51, 58-60, 62-63, and 68 as follows:

1-31. (Canceled)

32. (Currently Amended) A retainer configured for use with a medical article, the retainer comprising:

a body member comprising,

a channel formed through the body member and having a central axis, the channel being configured to retain at least a portion of the medical article within the body member with the retained portion extending entirely through the channel, the channel ~~and~~ having a longitudinal access opening disposed on an underside of the body member to allow at least ingress of at least the retained portion of the medical article into the channel,

at least one abutment extending generally normal to ~~an~~ the central axis of the ~~inverted~~ channel and configured to inhibit longitudinal movement of the medical article relative to the retainer, and

at least one support having a lower surface disposed on the underside of the retainer and to a side of the access opening opposite the channel axis, the lower surface being and located below the channel and at a distance spaced from the central axis, the distance being greater than a distance between a lower extremity of the retained portion of the medical article and the central axis so as to ~~prevent inhibit~~ contact between at least the lower extremity of the retained portion of the medical article and a patient's skin when the retainer is placed upon the patient's skin.

33. (Original) A retainer as in Claim 32 wherein the at least one abutment is configured to abut against a contact surface on the medical article to arrest movement of the medical article in at least one direction.

34. (Currently Amended) A retainer as in Claim 33 wherein the abutment has a generally complimentary shape to at least a portion of ~~contact surface comprises a surface of a~~ radially extending member of the medical article.

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35. (**Currently Amended**) A retainer as in Claim 34, wherein the retainer comprises two abutments arranged to form a slot therebetween, and ~~wherein~~ the slot is configured to receive the radially extending member when the medical article is inserted into the channel.

36. (**Original**) A retainer as in Claim 32, wherein the channel has a tapering shape.

37. (**Currently Amended**) A retainer as in Claim 36, wherein the tapering shape of the channel generally matches a tapering shape of the retained portion of the medical article.

38. (**Currently Amended**) A retainer as in Claim 37, wherein the tapering shape of the channel is selected to match substantially the tapering shape of the medical article to ~~limit~~ inhibit longitudinal movement of the retained portion of the medical article in a first direction when the retained portion of the medical article is inserted into the channel.

39. (**Currently Amended**) A retainer as in Claim 38, wherein the at least one abutment is configured to abut against a contact surface on the retained portion of the medical article to limit longitudinal movement of the medical article in a second direction.

40. (**Original**) A retainer as in Claim 32, wherein the retainer comprises a retention surface which is configured to inhibit transverse motion of the medical article.

41. (**Original**) A retainer as in Claim 40, wherein the retention surface is located in the channel.

42. (**Currently Amended**) A retainer as in Claim 32, wherein the at least one support is a ~~first~~ mounting wing coupled to the body member.

43. (**Original**) A retainer as in Claim 35, further comprising a stop member which extends into a portion of the slot such that when the medical article is inserted into the channel and rotated in a first direction around the axis of the channel, the radially extending member slides within the slot until the radially extending member contacts the stop member.

44. (**Currently Amended**) A retainer configured for use with a medical article, the retainer comprising:

a body member comprising,

a channel formed through the body member and having a central axis, the channel being configured to retain at least a portion of the medical article within the body member with the retained portion extending entirely through the channel, the channel ~~and~~ having a longitudinal access opening disposed on an underside of

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the body member to allow ingress of at least the retained portion of the medical article into the channel,

at least one abutment extending generally normal to the central an axis of the channel and configured to inhibit longitudinal movement of the medical article relative to the retainer, and

means for inhibiting preventing contact between a lower extremity of the retained portion of the medical article and a patient's skin.

45. (Canceled)

46. (Canceled)

47. (Canceled)

48. (Canceled)

49. (Currently Amended) A retainer configured for use with a medical article that comprises a radially extending member, the retainer comprising:

a body member having proximal and distal ends and further comprising,

a channel formed through the body member and having a central axis, the channel being configured to retain at least a portion of the medical article within the body member with the retained portion extending entirely through the channel, the channel and having a longitudinal access opening disposed on an underside of the body member to allow at least ingress of at least the retained portion of the medical article into the channel, the channel being located within the body member so that a lower extremity of the retained medical article is spaced at a distance from the central axis, the distance being less than a distance between a lower extremity of the body member and the central axis so as to ~~prevent~~ inhibit contact between the retained portion of the medical article and a patient's skin when the retainer is placed upon the patient's skin,

at least one slot disposed between the proximal and distal ends of the body member and configured to receive the radially extending member, and

a stop member extending into a portion of the at least one slot such that when the medical article is inserted into the channel and rotated in a first direction around the axis of the channel, the radially extending member slides within the slot until the radially extending member contacts the stop member.

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50. (Original) A retainer as in Claim 49, wherein the body member further comprises at least one support disposed on the underside of the retainer and to a side of the access opening opposite the channel axis.

51. (Currently Amended) A retainer as in Claim 50, wherein the retainer comprises a retention surface which is configured to inhibit transverse motion of the medical article in at least one direction.

52. (Canceled).

53. (Canceled).

54. (Canceled).

55. (Canceled).

56. (Canceled).

57. (Canceled).

58. (Currently Amended) A retainer configured for use with a medical article, the retainer comprising:

a body member comprising,

a channel formed therethrough and having a central axis, the channel being configured to retain a portion of the medical article within the body member with the retained portion extending entirely through the channel, the channel and having a longitudinal access opening disposed on an underside of the body member to allow ingress of at least the retained portion of the medical article into the channel,

at least one abutment extending generally normal to ~~an~~ the central axis of the channel and configured to inhibit longitudinal movement of the medical article relative to the retainer, and

at least one support disposed on the underside of the retainer and to a side of the access opening opposite the channel axis, wherein a distance between the at least one support and the central axis of the channel is greater than a distance between a lower extremity of the retained portion of the medical article and the central axis so as to inhibit prevents contact between at least the retained portion of the medical article and a patient's skin when the retainer is placed upon the patient's skin.

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59. **(Currently Amended)** A retainer as Claim 58, wherein the channel comprises at least two portions that are spaced apart with the at least one abutment disposed in between the portions of the channel, each portion extending about the ~~channel~~-central axis.

60. **(Currently Amended)** A retainer configured for use with a medical article, the retainer comprising:

a body member comprising,

a channel formed therethrough and having a central axis, the channel being configured to retain at least a portion of the medical article within the body member with the retained portion extending entirely through the channel, the channel ~~and~~ having a longitudinal access opening disposed on an underside of the body member to allow ingress of at least the retained portion of the medical article,

at least one abutment extending generally normal to ~~an~~ the central axis of the channel and configured to inhibit longitudinal movement of the medical article relative to the retainer,

at least one support surface disposed on the underside of the retainer and to one side of the access opening opposite the channel axis, wherein the support surface is disposed below the channel and at a distance spaced from the central axis, which is greater than a distance between a lower extremity of the retained portion of the medical article and the central axis, so as to ~~prevent~~ inhibit contact between the lower extremity of the retained portion of the medical article and the patient's skin when the retainer is placed upon the patient's skin, and wherein the support surface is angled relative to the central axis of the channel to define an incident angle between the central axis of the channel and the patient's skin.

61. **(Previously Presented)** A retainer as in Claim 32, wherein the at least one abutment is located between proximal and distal ends of the body member along the axis of the channel.

62. **(Currently Amended)** A retainer as in Claim 32, wherein the at least one abutment is a surface on a proximal end of the body member ~~along the axis of the channel~~.

63. **(Currently Amended)** A retainer as in Claim 32, wherein the at least one abutment is located on a distal end of the body member ~~along the axis of the channel~~.

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64. **(Previously Presented)** A retainer as in Claim 34, wherein the radially extending member extends about the circumference of the medical article.

65. **(Previously Presented)** A retainer as in Claim 34, wherein the radially extending member extends substantially parallel to the medical article.

66. **(Previously Presented)** A retainer as in Claim 32, wherein the body member is configured to retain a medical article in the shape of a catheter hub.

67. **(Previously Presented)** A retainer as in Claim 32, wherein the body member is configured to retain a medical article having two contact surfaces, and wherein the body member of the retainer is sized to fit between the two contact surfaces.

68. **(Currently Amended)** A retainer as in Claim 32, wherein the body member comprises two abutments and is configured to retain a medical article having two contact surfaces, ~~and wherein the two contact surfaces abut against the two abutments.~~

69. **(Currently Amended)** A retainer as in Claim 32, wherein at least a portion of the channel has an arc length of greater than 180 degrees.

70. **(Previously Presented)** A retainer as in Claim 40, wherein the retention surface provides a snap-fit securement with the portion of the medical article.

71. **(Previously Presented)** A retainer as in Claim 40, wherein the retention surface flexes when the medical article is inserted into the channel.

72. **(Previously Presented)** A retainer as in Claim 71, wherein the retention surface is a movable wall.

73. **(Previously Presented)** A retainer as in Claim 40, wherein the channel has a radius of R and wherein the retention surface is located at a distance of greater than R from the axis of the channel.

74. **(Previously Presented)** A retainer as in Claim 32, wherein the abutment comprises an adhesive, the adhesive adhering to the medical article when the medical article is inserted into the retainer.

75. **(Previously Presented)** A retainer as in Claim 32, wherein a portion of the body member is transparent to facilitate alignment and ingress when inserting the medical article into the channel.

76. **(Previously Presented)** A retainer as in Claim 32, wherein the abutment comprises a wall of a slot.

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77. **(Previously Presented)** A retainer as in Claim 32, wherein the abutment comprises a ridge.

78. **(Previously Presented)** A retainer as in Claim 32, wherein the abutment comprises a protuberance.